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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

Date of Deposit: January 20, 2006

I hereby certify that the papers listed below and attached hereto are being deposited with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail, with sufficient postage, under 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 on the date indicated above and addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

As listed on the accompanying form PTO SB/08a, submitted herewith are copies of the indicated references which Applicant believes may be material to the examination of the above-identified application, and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists. Further, the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Written notification that the enclosed references have been considered in their entirety by return of a copy of the enclosed form, completed by the Examiner, is respectfully requested.

IDENTIFICATION OF TIME OF FILING THE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

- ☒ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the national application.
- ☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §1.491 in an international application.

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☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the First Office Action on the merits.

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☐ This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after three months of the filing date of the national application or after three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in § 1.491 in an international application or after the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before the mailing date of either a final action under § 1.113 or a notice of allowance under § 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application.

Accompanying this transmittal is:

☐ a statement specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e); or

☐ a fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p)

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1. a statement as specified in 37 CFR § 1.97(e); and

2. a fee set forth in 37 CFR § 1.17(p)

FEE PAYMENT

☒ Applicants believe no additional fees are due for the filing of this IDS.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: January 20, 2006

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Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of the USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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